

City of Rigby  
Council Meeting Minutes  
September 17, 2015

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015. The pledge of allegiance was given by David Swager and the prayer was offered by Benson Taylor.

The Mayor asked the clerk to call the roll.

Councilman Walker	Present
Councilman Maloney	Present
Councilman Simonson	Present
Councilman Olsen	Present
Councilman Burke	Present
Councilman Taylor	Present

Also present: Keith Hammon, Attorney Dunn

Mayor's Action:

A: Constitution Week Proclamation:

The mayor read a proclamation declaring the week of September 17 through 23<sup>rd</sup> as Constitution Week.

B: ~~Swearing In Planning Zoning Member~~

C: Awarding Basic Service Certificate:

Chief Hammon awarded the basic service certificate to Officer Shane Lusk.

Application for Non-commercial Kennel License:

No Show

City Prosecuting Attorney- Report on Activities:

The attorney, Robin Dunn, recapped the criminal activities for the last 56 months. Total citations for the period totaled 4,411 (excluding juvenile). Under the juvenile justice act there were between 616 – 631 offences. Under the Child Protection Act information is somewhat hard to obtain as it pertains to time and the procedures involved. He is also involved with the US Attorney in any case involving child endangerment and pornography.

During the 56 month period approximately \$82,070 was received by the city in fines and court costs.

The mayor asked Mr. Dunn about the interaction he has with other departments: Mr. Dunn said they interact almost daily with the probation office, and almost weekly with the other departments. For the City police it's almost daily based on the offences and citations. They also assist in training officers in training involving searches.

The mayor asked the council if they had any questions.

Councilman Olsen asked how a major crime (murder case) affected the city. Mr. Dunn said based on the last murder inside the city, the city police worked in conjunction with the county and state police. The county assumes the responsibility for the legal costs and in the case he referenced, Jefferson County picked up the majority of the costs.

The mayor commented that at his last mayor's meeting, the other mayor's commented the ease they had working with their county prosecutor's office in having the city's cases go through the court system when they work through the county prosecutor's office.

The mayor commented that the council had considered seeking a request for proposal (RFP) and would at this time entertain a motion if they so desired. Hearing none the mayor thanked Mr. Dunn for his report.

Review of Rigby Lake Road Project:

Kevin Thompson from Thompson Engineering presented the council with an engineering estimate of the costs associated with the completion of the road from Courthouse Drive to the Annis Hwy and the cul-de-sac off of Pleasant Country Lane. Mr. Thompson estimated the road and cul-de-sac including lighting, storm drains, curb-gutter to cost \$269,633. Sidewalks are estimated to cost \$32,200 which is not included in the \$269,633 figure.

Mr. Thompson reviewed the road along Rigby Lake Road. Mr. Thompson indicated the road way did not have any engineering drawings when the subdivision was accepted by the city. He had problems estimating the construction costs due to the volume in road fill needed to bring the west side of the roadway to grade. The frontage road was deeded to the county in 1973 and nothing has changed since that date. To compile an engineer's estimate will require massive amount of time to compute the topography and to work up the elevations along the road to compute the fill needed. He estimated that a fee to complete the engineer's estimate would be around \$3,500.

The mayor indicated Mr. Price had stated in an earlier meeting stated that he has property that could be lien to cover the costs to complete the roads. The city needed to act to protect the city's interest.

Councilman Taylor moved to enter into a contract with Thompson Engineering to complete the Rigby Lake Road per city code for an amount not to exceed \$3,500. Motion seconded by Councilman Maloney.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

City's Capital Infrastructure Plan:

Marvin Fielding from Keller Engineering reviewed the City-Wide Capital Improvement Plan dated August 2015. He noted that he had taken three prior reports and incorporated them into the current report.

The report is broken down into three segments: Water, Wastewater Water and Transportation. Keller's rated the associated need of each segment from high, medium and low priority. The water system had the following costs ranked by priority:

High	223,000
Medium	6,094,000

Low 2,716,000

The mayor noted under medium priority that he had listed water meters at a cost \$2.2 million. The mayor noted the citizens had rejected the idea of meters two or three years earlier so he felt they needed to be moved to low priority. In questioning Mr. Fielding noted that not all cities in east Idaho meter and presently there is no requirement to install meters.

The Wastewater system, using the same ranking system, the summary had the following priorities and costs:

High	1,114,000
Medium	1,530,000
Low	25,000

Noted as having a high priority need was the backup generator for the three lift stations and rehabilitating various sewer lines along Hwy 48 and 1<sup>st</sup> South. Mr. Fielding also recapped various sewer lines which are suspected to allow water infiltration those being West 2<sup>nd</sup> North; Caribou, Boulder and North 3<sup>rd</sup> West, and various manholes.

Under the transportation plan the priority needs are:

High	6,025,000
Medium	6,147,000
Low	5,200,000

Due to using prior reports, on the high priority was listed the construction of collector streets in the amount of \$4.4 million. He noted this was based on a 2006 study and he had no information as to the streets identified. The named streets having a high priority are: Circle Drive, Church Street, Claremore, S 2<sup>nd</sup> West and W 2<sup>nd</sup> North for a cost of \$655,000.

The mayor asked about the study on the south interchange and the connections of the various roads. Mr. Fielding could not give a figure to realign those roads.

The mayor asked about the water system and the high-low priority items. He asked the clerk how the city was to complete these projects. The clerk indicated the sewer and water funds being an enterprise fund they have a way of funding these projects. The transportation needs do not have a funding vehicle other than surplus from the general fund and road fund, if there are any.

Councilman Olsen asked if it was common to have report after report issued on the same topic. Mr. Fielding said yes for water and sewer systems. Transportation plans usually are reviewed/updated every five years.

#### Appropriating Ordinance #2015-582:

Councilman Walker moved to adopt Ordinance #2015-582 seconded by Councilman Olsen.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	No
Councilman Olsen	Yes

Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Councilman Taylor moved to authorize publication of the summary of Ordinance #2015-582 seconded by Councilman Simonson.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Resolution #178-2015:

Councilman Maloney moved to adopt Resolution #178-2015 – Setting fees and charges – seconded by Councilman Burke.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

1st Reading Ordinance #2015-583 – Amending Various Code Sections:

Councilman Taylor asked for unanimous consent to waive the seconded and third reading of ordinance #2015-583 and to read the summary of the ordinance.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

The asked the attorney to read the summary of Ordinance #2015-583.

Motion by Councilman Walker moved to adopt Ordinance #2015-583 and to publish in summary seconded by Councilman Maloney.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Approval of 2016 Beer and Liquor Licenses:

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the 2016 beer and liquor licenses as listed (copy attached) seconded by Councilman Simonson.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Quarterly Interfund Transfers:

The clerk reported the fourth quarter interfund transfers from the enterprise funds to the general fund and from the general fund to the library fund needed approval.

Councilman Simonson moved to approve the interfund quarterly transfers be approved seconded by Councilman Burke.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Purchase of Irrigation Water:

The mayor explained that there are four different water rights in the Ammon foothills that the four individuals are looking at selling. The clerk recapped the offer which is each of the four shares for .02 CFS of irrigation water be purchased for \$3,000 per share, with the filing fee of \$250 to be paid out of the purchase price of \$3,000 with the net amount being paid to the shareholder. The mayor said upon the purchase of the four water rights the city would file for a change of point of diversion at a cost of \$500.00 per water right. He went on and indicated the purchase would increase the holdings of water rights by about 8%. He also said the search for ground water will need to continue to maintain the city's rights to ground water.

Councilman Simonson moved to approve the purchase of the four water rights seconded by Councilman Burke.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

After the polling the mayor indicated the purchase is contingent upon the four filing the sale of the water right in a timely manner before the deadline of September 30, 2015.

Election Ballot Advisory Vote:

The mayor said with the upcoming city election he would like to have an advisory vote placed on the ballot. He said the issue may come before the council and he would like input from the residents. The wording to be placed on the ballot is:

ADVISORY VOTE:

*The Rigby City Council voted to keep the restriction that prohibits liquor sales on Sunday. Do you agree with the Rigby City Council's decision to keep the restriction that prohibits liquor sales on Sunday?*

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No.

The mayor said the deadline for placing this on the ballot was Monday September 14, 2015. The city emailed and also faxed the information to the county clerk's office prior to 5:00pm Monday.

Councilman Walker questioned on the wording, he felt the wording is leading and asked if it could be changed. The mayor indicated the wording could not be changed but the ballot vote could be pulled. The vote is not binding but he felt the issue will come up again.

Councilman Olsen moved to approve the ballot advisory vote as submitted seconded by Councilman Maloney.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Review and Approval of Bills:

Councilman Taylor inquired about the copies of checks sent out with the bill list. The chief indicated the copies of the checks needed to be sent prior to council meeting. The three checks will be reimbursed for the expenditures. The checks were to: MPH Industries, Taser International, and Teton Communications.

Councilman Maloney moved to approve the bills seconded by Councilman Taylor.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	Yes
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	Yes

Approval of Minutes:

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes seconded by Councilman Simonson.

The mayor called for a voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Other Council Business:

County/City Contract:

The mayor began by saying that as part of his responsibility, along with the council's, it is his duty to make sure the public funds are being spent efficiently and effectively as possible. He has been looking at the cost of the police department's budgets and made inquiries to the sheriff on the possibility of contracting the city police duties under the county sheriff's office. He mentioned that other cities (Driggs, Grace and Eagle) that have contracted their police departments under the county sheriff. There has been a mixed review- some good, some have been improved. After making a list of the responsibilities he then went to county sheriff so explore options for the city. The service from the county must include 24/7 coverage. He said all the services we currently have would continue under the county. The cost of that service would be almost one-half what we currently pay. The sheriff is proposing a cost of around \$350,000 for the service versus the current cost of \$712,000. The first year costs include transitional costs that would go away after the first year. He again reiterated his responsibility as the mayor to get the most out of public funds. He realizes the impact this decision will have on the employees. He has met with the police chief to get his thoughts on the issue and to inform him of what he was thinking. The transition will involve five officers being retained by the county. The contract would be designed based on our needs and desires. The bullet points on the sheet that he sent earlier have been discussed with the sheriff. He also said the mayors of both Menan and Lewisville have positive remarks of the cooperation that the current and past sheriffs have offered their cities. He said that along with the transition he would like to have the council consider a severance package for the affected employees. He is also requesting a public hearing on the issue on the following council meeting.

Councilman Taylor asked if the mayor could provide a presentation as to what the city is gaining and what the city is losing. Overall the concept doesn't make sense to him.

The mayor said one thing that would be gained would be one hour per day of coverage. Currently the city have 23/7 officer coverage. The city would also be gaining a pool of detectives from which the city will have access to. The city will become an extension of the entire county and has access to the county resources. City officers will assist the county when required as well as the county would assist the city when needed. Vehicles would be transfer to the county.

Councilman Taylor asked what if it doesn't work out. The mayor said the city would save the cost difference (\$350,000) plus the original budget amount of \$700,000.

Councilman Simonson expressed concern with the sheriff and county commissioners having control over the police budget. The mayor indicated the city has number options available for the use of the tentative savings but wanted to defer that discussion until later. The mayor reminded council of the upcoming financial obligation the city is facing in view of the capital infrastructure plan discussed earlier this evening.

Councilman Olsen feels the move would remove the one-on-one relationship the citizens have with the officers. He also has concern with the language that the current officers could interview for the job. The decision to hire or not hire appears to be left to the discretion of the sheriff. The mayor said the one-on-one relationship would not change just because an officer changes his uniform. As for the interview process the city could have direct input on the decision with first right of refusal. The sheriff has been very positive towards Rigby's officers. Councilman Olsen also is somewhat uncomfortable with county having control over the contract.

Councilman Simonson stated the county commissioner's still approves all contracts and one item could be placed in the contract that may be unacceptable to the city. What would our options then be?

The mayor said there are three options for the city: 1) Maintain the current status with the suggested low officer's salaries. 2) Adopt a step/grade system that remains within the tax levy of the city. 3) Contract with the county our police protection.

The mayor felt the same services that the county is offering for the price along with the county having a higher step/grade system in place that is higher than what we offer. The savings could be significant. The contract would specify that it is a metro division. The officers hired would be our police officer and not part of a rotating pool of officers. The supervisor would still attend department head meetings and attend council meetings. The officers would still be our officers. The vehicles assigned to the city would bear the county's logo but also be identified as Rigby's metro division, similar to Ammon's. The sense of community connection would not go away.

Councilman Taylor expressed concern with writing a contract of this type and noted that the city/county attorney has a conflict. The mayor said he has been in contact with Scott Hall who is Ammon's city attorney and is familiar with the contract issued between Ammon and Bonneville County and he is working with the mayor on this contract. The form is not new and we're merely modifying Ammon's to our needs. The contract with Ammon is important because they also have 24/7 coverage and specific services provided them that cities of Roberts and Lewisville do not have. Rigby will continue with the same level of services the police department is providing the city will continue: parades, special events, etc. Not every item in the police department would be transferred. Items such as uniforms and guns are different and would need to be addressed in the contract. The mayor said the only item thus far discussed was the four cars.

Councilman Walker had concern the county's control and use of the cars along with the amount of overtime the metro division could incur and the associated costs. The mayor wanted to continue to purchase the cars out of the capital improvement fund versus a specific line item each year. When the need for a car arise, they would come to us fund the purchase instead of paying year over year as part of the annual contract.

Councilman Olsen asked if the county has the physical space for the five officers. The mayor said the sheriff has indicated they have the office space to incorporate the officers into their office. The mayor said that whenever you combine services duplication of administrative services decreases. The sheriff has a pool of administrative personnel along with a pool of sergeants and detectives with which to oversee and administer the department. These costs are not be duplicated and part of the costs are shown as a line item as command support.

The mayor said the discussion this evening was a non-action and that he wanted a public hearing for this. Council expressed concern over where a venue could be held for this. The mayor will make the arrangements probably at either one of the two elementary schools.

Councilman Burke wanted to know about future pay raises for the officers. The mayor said they would follow the county's pay scale which would be renegotiated each year as part of the contract. Councilman Walker wanted the mayor to review how he got the savings of \$1 million after the first year if the contract was cancelled. The mayor briefly reviewed the savings from the \$700,000 less the county contract of \$350,000 would result in a first year saving of roughly \$350,000. If the city cancelled the



contract the city would have the budget amount of \$700,000 to be raised by taxes in the second year plus the savings of \$350,000 for an amount available at the end of the first year of \$1 million. This is predicated that the savings of \$350,000 not being spent. Given the nerviness being expressed by the council the mayor said that end of the third year hopefully, the effectiveness of the system would either work or not work. If the city saved the cost savings, then the department could be started back up with the combined savings of close to \$1 million in savings plus the original budget tax levy of \$700,000.

The council discussed when to have a public hearing – either the day before or on the same day (October 1). Consensus was to have it on October 1, regular council meeting date and time but at a different location to accommodate the anticipated audience.

The mayor said the bullet points shown on the handout have been discussed with the sheriff and Attorney Scott Hall. If the council thinks of other items please email him those thoughts.

#### City Election:

There are four council seats up for election with Councilmen Maloney and Simonson not filing petitions for re-election. There are five candidates that have filed petitions for the four seats.

The mayor then opened the agenda for public comment.

#### Public Comment:

##### Ryan Day:

Wanted to know if any effort had been made to re-structure the police department. Felt the council needed to discuss the services with the police chief to see if changes could be affected. The total cost of the county is not \$350,000 but more like \$380,000 when you add the cost of the car into the contract. As for restarting a police department it's not as easy as one thinks. You have to hire officers, run them through POST and purchase new cars and equipment. He also felt the services the police responding to every medical emergency is very good. He cited a case with his father as an example. The council needs to be mindful of the officers and their families. This decision is being sprung on them and tomorrow they may not have a job. If you dissolve this department and may be getting a good price the first year but what will the price be next year and the years thereafter. If the police department is dissolved the city is under no obligation to pay the county for police protection.

The mayor responded that he had had discussions with the chief on how to streamline his department over the past two years. Change happens with certainty. He also feels the emotions the officers and their families are going through that is why he is requesting the council to provide a severance package to the police. The cost of the police cars is being funded from the capital improvement fund. The decision for this change has to be discussed at some point in time. He does not feel it was sprung on them any more than any other discussion. The first discussion has to happen sometime. He also wants public comment on the issue before any decision is made.

##### Ann Marie Hammon:

If the county was to implement their pay scale for the five officers why not initiate the same pay scale at the city and keep the five officers. Covering for sickness or vacation will be pulling from officers from the county and could cause overtime to the county. The city officers donate their time to the city in a number of ways. Feels they are not being appreciated. We know the current officers we don't know what kind of services you are going to get in future years from the county. You will also be paying for any officer's turnover for there will be turnover.

Larry Anderson:

Larry worked for the city 42 years with 34 years as police chief. Commented that the city had been down this path before and it never worked out. Feels the city will be losing the one-on-one relationship with the officers. If you call Chief Hammon he'll come to your home. Sheriff Anderson will not be the same. Once you lose the department it will never be back. Ammon had at one time its own police but now has to contract for the police. There is no savings. Taxes will still remain. The discussion should have been started during the budget process in April or May. Council should have been involved earlier than this in this discussion. Any equipment being transferred to the county should be paid for by the county. Mr. Anderson said that he could review the budget and could get it back down to what the county is offering and the city will still own the department.

The mayor responded that "not getting it back", there are examples where cities have restarted their police departments. Lowering of taxes: No there has not been any discussion on lowering taxes because no decision has been made regarding the police. Yes he spoke with the sheriff about this issue because he couldn't bring the council in on it prior to seeing if such a change would work. He said when the discussion is brought up it would still need to be done either now or a month earlier. Certain discovery needed to be made to explore all options prior to opening the discussion process and having answers.

Christine Naylor:

Stated that there is always an officer at Harwood Elementary in the mornings. She does not see an officer at the middle school. She appreciates having an officer at Harwood. She also concern with the speed along Highway 48. Feels the county will not address the issue of the speed on Hwy 48. She doesn't feel services are being duplicated.

The mayor said the issue of speed along Hwy 48 is being addressed by ITD as reported in the paper.

Linda Breckenridge:

Feels living in Rigby is safe environment. Concern with the reduction in force from eight to five will affect the safety of the community and with the same coverage we currently have. How can the budget of \$350,000 be the same year after year with officer's salary increases? Also complimented the police on providing medical emergency. Never hear about public meetings. The newspaper is also after the fact. Wants announcement placed on the city utility bills but in larger font. Too hard to read with the small print.

Mayor will add the comment about providing medical emergency services to the contract and instructed the clerk to post the notice of public hearing on the next utility bills.

Patricia Scott:

She supports the concept being discussed. While living in Utah many communities have consolidated law enforcement agencies. She did discuss this with the mayor some time ago but she thought it would be discussed in the general session. Feels the process is being moved along too fast and need more time for thought and discussion. Feels while the mayor could not discuss the issue individually with the council that may be in violation of the open meeting law but the general discussion could have been discussed at council meeting. Items such as contract garbage services could be contracted out. The night before the topic would be discussed is too short of time to begin the discussion.

The mayor said there is no pace or date in which a decision will be made. His view of government is that it should encourage public discussion. He does not feel that schedule a general discussion done this evening and asking for a public hearing is not moving fast and with ample time for the public to comment.

James Davis:

Mr. Davis is questioning the numbers that's being discussed, where did they come from? If the numbers are correct then he's for saving the money. He supports the current officers that the city has. The city is not losing good officers but the county is gaining great officers.

The mayor said the numbers came from the sheriff and his office staff.

Tiffany Jenkins:

Asked if the ordinance officer will still be with the city and what will happen to the K-9 unit? The K-9 officer acts as a backup to the county's K-9 unit.

The mayor indicated that there would not be an additional officer for those two positions.

Terry Smith:

Has been a reserve officer for 16 years with the city. The city has a dedicated group of officers. If the police department is disbanded it would be a big mistake. Businesses need police protection. The city will be losing volunteers and the reserve program and its six reserve officers.

Suzy Garrett:

The police department is fine people and she feels very emotional towards the city and its police officers.

Melanie Jones:

She drives through a number of cities. She drives through Roberts, Driggs, Mud Lake, and Victor. She never sees a county officer in Mud Lake, Roberts or Lewisville. In Driggs you see one on the north side of town; in Victor you see them on the south side. For hiring five of Rigby's officers you'll be lucky if two of them are hired. She doesn't want the county commissioners dictating to the city. In Ammon you never see an officer. Once a day you will see a Rigby officer. Ammon has a slow response time from the county.

Sage Albright:

Is a police officer for the city of Idaho Falls. Feels when he leaves town his children are safe and protected with the Rigby force. Rigby officers respond to the needs of the community. Currently Idaho Falls is having a shortage of manpower to fill in for sick leave and other absences. County officers will not be able to man all the time they say they will be manned.

Rebecca Webster:

The Rigby police Junior Cadet Program saved her grandson. Prior to joining the Junior Program he was failing in school and had no direction to what he wanted to do with his life. After he joined the program his grades improved and now want to work in law enforcement. Cutting the department is not the solution.

The mayor said that after speaking with Mrs. Webster daughter, he spoke with the sheriff and the sheriff is supportive of continuing the junior program. Just because an officer changes his uniform doesn't translate to an uncaring officer do the mere change of uniforms. The ability of the city to provide backup is limited to the seven officers we have. Having the county we will have the full county ability to provide backup.

Jill Peterson:

As a former EMT technician she reported that a number of times the county sheriff responded earlier than the city police force for emergency calls. Feels the group may be biased but hope more people will come out and voice their thoughts. Feels the change could be a good change and any kinks could and will be worked out over time. Feels it's worth looking into.

Dan Roberts:

Although living outside of Jefferson County he has been involved in government. Years ago he did operate two businesses in Rigby. He feels any official that looks at government spending and watches the bottom line should be encouraged and commended. The decision that will be made should be made on correct principles and not emotions.

Keith Hammon:

Chief Hammon feels the decision is being made over money. All he wanted was the best for his officers and higher pay. He questioned a 5% increase that occurred this year. He requested for a pay raise has gone on for over a year. He questioned if out of the detective pool of the county will one detective be dedicated full time to the city? Detective Martin spends 16 hours a week on detective duties. In talks with the sheriff, Sheriff Anderson indicated he did not want the city contract. The City of Ucon complains that the county is slow in responding to the city. The time that the county officer charges Ucon is the time he drives through the city. He has been involved in Rigby law enforcement for 21 years. Four officers will not be able to provide the service that the current force does. There have been 16 prior police chiefs in the city. There are 82 police chiefs in Idaho, why aren't the others doing the same thing?

The mayor said the difference cited in Ucon is that it is not a fulltime service Rigby would be a full time service. As for the sheriff not wanting to participate in a contract, he has been in discussion with the sheriff over this and he's never expressed opposition in exploring it. But, he will have Sheriff Anderson address the issue. As for the money, it is about money. The difference is what the city is paying over what it could pay is a major factor. If the city can obtain services for half what it's costing then the city should consider it very strongly. His responsibility is to bring the difference to the council. There has not been polling or other discussion concerning this among the council. The discussion must have a starting point and this evening was the beginning of the discussion process. The issue is emotional and the discussion needs to happen. It's not a personal thing. In discussion Tuesday the chief's mentioned that his department could be cut to five. This was the first time such a plan was mentioned in over two years of discussion. The difference is not over 5% but after cuts from 15-30% first proposed. He feels the police are under paid but that it's part of being a part of government because taxes are involved. A fourth option would be to have a tax over ride to fund the police department. To say the department is going away because of money is correct but not over the 5%. This issue is not decided. The council will hear from the public who will voice their concern to the people who pay the taxes that pays for law enforcement.

This is the opening of an ideal that he has and he has the responsibility to bring these ideas to the council. He is aware of the feelings that the officers and their families are feeling. He has been through a similar situation. It is his moral and mayoral obligation to discuss the issue.

The mayor then closes public comment. And the next item on the agenda was an executive session.

Executive Session:

Councilman Walker moved that the council enter into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(b) seconded by Councilman Taylor.

The Mayor asked the clerk to poll the council:

Councilman Walker	Yes
Councilman Maloney	Yes
Councilman Simonson	No
Councilman Olsen	Yes
Councilman Burke	Yes
Councilman Taylor	No

Council enters executive session at 10:40pm.

Council exits executive session at 11:24pm.

The mayor indicated that council was now in open session. Discussion was to discuss staff and in particular salary for the department heads. He opened discussion to the council. He clarified that raises could happen at any time and need not be at any particular time. The decision is up to the council.

Responding from a question from Councilman Walker the mayor indicated he had received multiply calls concerning this. Being that it does not affect you, you respond differently than what was said this evening. Councilman Walker stated that the public hearing will bring the same passion and emotion. The mayor said what he hopes to come out of the public hearing is something that we've missed and not considered.

Comment was that the rules for public hearings needed to be adhered to and the mayor shouldn't respond to each and every person. The mayor's main concern was to not string out this discussion and keeps the officer's anxiety level strung out.

Adjournment:

Councilman Simonson moved that the council adjourn seconded by Councilman Taylor.


The mayor called for voice poll: All in favor none opposed.

Council adjourned at 11:35pm

CITY OF RIGBY

  
Jason Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Swager, Clerk